

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, after the title, insert:

RELATED INFORMATION

This application is a divisional of co-pending application serial number 10/081,717 filed on February 21, 2002. The priority of this application is expressly claimed, and the disclosure of this prior application is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

On page 25, lines 5-17 please replace with the following paragraph:

Turning to FIG. 6C, the obturator 18 may then be inserted into the lateral port 88, through the interior of the tubular members 76, 78 and into the lumen 20 of the sheath 12. When the obturator 18 is fully inserted within the sheath 12, the actuator housing 180 may be received in the lateral port 88, and the distal portion 182 of the obturator 18 may extend beyond the distal end 24 of the sheath 12. The distal tip 184 preferably is substantially soft and/or flexible such that the distal portion 182 substantially atraumatically enters the vessel 90. In this fully inserted position, cooperating detents (not shown), e.g., on the actuator housing 180 and the lateral port 88, may be engaged to secure the obturator 18 axially within the actuator assembly 16. Alternatively, the obturator 18 may be pre-attached to the actuator assembly 16, e.g., as a single assembly, as described in co-pending application Serial No. 10,081,723 ~~—/—~~, filed on February 21, 2002 ~~the same day as the present application~~ and titled “Apparatus and Methods for Delivering a Closure Element” (attorney docket 701879.18 ~~262/280~~). The disclosure of this application and any references cited therein are expressly incorporated herein by reference.

On page 32, lines 8-20, please replace with the following paragraph:

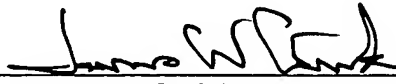
The clip 205, best seen in FIG. 8, is an annular-shaped member including proximal and distal ends 206, 208 and a plurality of tissue engaging elements 207 extending from the distal end 208. In

a preferred embodiment, the clip 205 includes a plurality of alternating diagonal elements 209 extending between the proximal and distal ends 206, 208. The proximal and distal ends 206, 208 of the clip 205 include curved elements connecting adjacent diagonal elements 209, the curved elements alternating between the proximal and distal ends 206, 208 around the circumference of the clip 205 such that the clip 205 defines a substantially continuous serpentine or zigzag pattern about the circumference. Alternatively, the clip may include one or more loops (not shown) between adjacent tissue engaging elements, which may enhance a flexibility of the clip 205. Additional information on such a clip may be found in co-pending application Serial No. 10,081,726 ~~____/____~~, filed on February 21, 2002 ~~the same day as the present application,~~ and titled "Closure Apparatus and Methods for Making and Using Them" (attorney docket no. 701879.8 ~~260/099~~). The disclosure of this application and any references cited therein are expressly incorporated herein by reference.

Dated: October 8, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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